



Company Announcement

CLINUVEL

ASX: CUV  
Nasdaq International Designation: CLVLY  
XETRA-DAX: UR9

## FDA MEETING CONFIRMED TO ADVANCE SCENESSE® IN VITILIGO

*FDA sets 29 April for Type C meeting to discuss the protocol design for CUV104 (Phase II) and CUV105 (Phase III) studies in vitiligo*

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- FDA confirms Type C meeting to discuss the proposed study protocol design in vitiligo
- SCENESSE® to be used as combination therapy with narrow band UVB
- Proposed studies CUV104 and CUV105 to be conducted in North America
- Global vitiligo experts to attend the FDA meeting

Melbourne, Australia and San Francisco USA, 03 March 2020

CLINUVEL PHARMACEUTICALS LTD [ASX:CUV; XETRA-DAX: UR9; Nasdaq International Designation: CLVLY] today received confirmation that the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has designated 29 April to discuss and agree the North American development program for SCENESSE® (afamelanotide 16mg) for the pigment loss disorder vitiligo.<sup>1</sup>

### PROPOSED STUDIES CUV104 AND CUV105 IN NORTH AMERICA

The proposed study design comprises the treatment of vitiligo with SCENESSE® in combination with narrowband UVB (NB-UVB). In North America the standard of care is NB-UVB administered twice or thrice per week for up to 18 months to initiate repigmentation in vitiligo. Other treatment modalities consist of corticosteroids, calcineurin inhibitors, vitamin D3 analogues and melanocyte transplantation. Further treatments under development are oral and systemic JAK-2 inhibitors to provoke repigmentation, although no pharmaceutical product is currently approved for vitiligo in the USA. Vitiligo clinical experts agree that the current treatment modalities are deemed insufficient to provide a homogenous and consistent repigmentation solution.

### FDA REGULATORY PROCESS

Pending ongoing safety and efficacy in its vitiligo program, CLINUVEL seeks to file a supplemental New Drug Application (sNDA) for SCENESSE®. A sNDA, referred to as an “efficacy supplement”, is required to add a new indication to the labelling of an approved drug in the USA, with the submission consisting of clinical data supporting the new indication and any additional studies which may be required to support the efficacy and safety in the new indication. SCENESSE® was approved by the FDA in October 2019 to increase pain-free light exposure in adult patients with the rare metabolic disorder erythropoietic protoporphyria (EPP).

Discussions during the Type C meeting will focus on study protocol design, endpoints (study objectives) and final development leading to market authorization. Previous discussions between CLINUVEL and the FDA, first held in 2011, focused on the requirements to advance SCENESSE® in combination with NB-UVB for the treatment of vitiligo while one more preclinical study was successfully conducted to simulate the combination treatment proposed in man. This combination study demonstrated no safety issues of significance and good tolerability.

The FDA meeting will be attended by various global vitiligo experts and CLINUVEL’s senior regulatory and clinical managers.

## **SCENESSE® - REPIGMENTATION IN VITILIGO (PIGMENT LOSS)**

In clinical trials conducted by CLINUVEL (CUV102 and CUV103) the combination of SCENESSE® and NB-UVB treatment resulted in more rapid and extensive repigmentation compared to treatment with NB-UVB alone.<sup>2</sup> In CUV102, a proof-of-concept study undertaken in the US, a significant recovery of pigmentation was observed in patients with darker skin complexion (Fitzpatrick skin types IV-VI). In CUV103, a proof-of-concept study in Singapore, a more pronounced clinically meaningful recurrence of pigmentation for total body and areas of the head and neck was observed. However, a finding was that Singaporean vitiligo patients were not always accepting of the transient darker pigmentation of the confluent skin following afamelanotide treatment.

Afamelanotide has proven to be well tolerated with its safety profile maintained over clinical trials and post-authorisation use.

### **COMMENTARY**

“Our team has been waiting for this moment, since we first planned to gain US marketing authorisation for SCENESSE® in EPP. This was received in October 2019,” CLINUVEL’s Chief Scientific Officer, Dr Dennis Wright said.

“It was obvious that a positive scientific review of SCENESSE® would need to come from the FDA’s Division for Dermatology and Dental Products before we would be able to initiate the final stages of the American vitiligo program.”

“Our overall aim is to provide repigmentation in patients who are most affected by vitiligo, reduce the frequency of clinical visits required by the current NB-UVB standard treatment protocols and thus see a decrease of radiation exposure for these patients.”

### **ABOUT VITILIGO**

Vitiligo is a skin disorder characterised by the appearance of white to off-white skin patches (depigmented lesions) in different parts of the body due to the loss of melanin (pigment) production by melanocytes, the skin cells responsible for skin pigmentation. In vitiligo, melanocytes appear to lose their function. Vitiligo can start at any anatomical site and at any age and its causes are unknown (idiopathic). It is hypothesised that both genetic and environmental factors contribute to cause an autoimmune response in this condition. Vitiligo often affects the face, chest and extremities and may gradually spread to the limbs and other body surfaces. Patients are most affected psychologically when exposed parts of the body show extensive loss of pigmentation. Although vitiligo is seen in all skin types (Fitzpatrick types I-VI), the highest psychological and societal impact is reported in darker skin complexions.

**- End -**

<sup>1</sup> SCENESSE® (afamelanotide 16mg) is approved in the European Union as an orphan medicinal product for the prevention of phototoxicity in adult patients with erythropoietic protoporphyria (EPP). SCENESSE® is approved in the USA to increase pain free light exposure in adult EPP patients with a history of phototoxicity. Information on the product can be found on CLINUVEL’s website at [www.clinuvel.com](http://www.clinuvel.com).

<sup>2</sup> CLINUVEL has published a series of scientific communiques on program for vitiligo and the mechanism of action of SCENESSE®: [Vitiligo Communiqué I](#), [Vitiligo Communiqué II](#), [Vitiligo Communiqué III](#).

Results from clinical trials of SCENESSE® and NB-UVB have been published in:

- Lim, H. W. et al. (2015). Afamelanotide and Narrowband UV-B Phototherapy for the Treatment of Vitiligo: A Randomized Multicenter Trial. *JAMA Dermatology*. 151(1), 42.
- Toh, J. J. H. et al. (2020). Afamelanotide Implants and Narrow-band Ultraviolet B Phototherapy for the Treatment of Nonsegmental Vitiligo in Asians. *JAAD*. ePub 24 January 2020.

Authorised for ASX release by the Board of Directors of CLINUVEL PHARMACEUTICALS LTD

## **About CLINUVEL PHARMACEUTICALS LIMITED**

CLINUVEL PHARMACEUTICALS LTD (ASX: CUV; NASDAQ INTERNATIONAL DESIGNATION ADR: CLVLY; XETRA-DAX: UR9) is a global biopharmaceutical company focused on developing and delivering treatments for patients with a range of severe genetic and skin disorders. As pioneers in photomedicine and understanding the interaction of light and human biology, CLINUVEL's research and development has led to innovative treatments for patient populations with a clinical need for photoprotection and repigmentation. These patient groups range in size from 5,000 to 45 million worldwide. CLINUVEL's lead compound, SCENESSE® (afamelanotide 16mg), was approved by the European Commission in 2014 and the US Food and Drug Administration in 2019 for the prevention of phototoxicity (anaphylactoid reactions and burns) in adult patients with erythropoietic protoporphyria (EPP). More information on EPP can be found at <http://www.epp.care>. Headquartered in Melbourne, Australia, CLINUVEL has operations in Europe, Singapore and the USA. For more information please go to <http://www.clinuvel.com>.

SCENESSE® is a registered trademark of CLINUVEL PHARMACEUTICALS LTD.

### **Head of Investor Relations**

Mr Malcolm Bull, CLINUVEL PHARMACEUTICALS LTD

### **Investor enquiries**

<https://www.clinuvel.com/investors/contact-us>

### **Forward-Looking Statements**

This release contains forward-looking statements, which reflect the current beliefs and expectations of CLINUVEL's management. Statements may involve a number of known and unknown risks that could cause our future results, performance or achievements to differ significantly from those expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. Important factors that could cause or contribute to such differences include risks relating to: our ability to develop and commercialise pharmaceutical products, including our ability to develop, manufacture, market and sell biopharmaceutical products; competition for our products, especially SCENESSE® (afamelanotide 16mg); our ability to achieve expected safety and efficacy results through our innovative R&D efforts; the effectiveness of our patents and other protections for innovative products, particularly in view of national and regional variations in patent laws; our potential exposure to product liability claims to the extent not covered by insurance; increased government scrutiny in either Australia, the U.S., Europe and Japan of our agreements with third parties and suppliers; our exposure to currency fluctuations and restrictions as well as credit risks; the effects of reforms in healthcare regulation and pharmaceutical pricing and reimbursement; that the Company may incur unexpected delays in the outsourced manufacturing of SCENESSE® which may lead to it being unable to supply its commercial markets and/or clinical trial programs; any failures to comply with any government payment system (i.e. Medicare) reporting and payment obligations; uncertainties surrounding the legislative and regulatory pathways for the registration and approval of biotechnology based products; decisions by regulatory authorities regarding approval of our products as well as their decisions regarding label claims; any failure to retain or attract key personnel and managerial talent; the impact of broader change within the pharmaceutical industry and related industries; potential changes to tax liabilities or legislation; environmental risks; and other factors that have been discussed in our 2019 Annual Report. Forward-looking statements speak only as of the date on which they are made, and the Company undertakes no obligation, outside of those required under applicable laws or relevant listing rules of the Australian Securities Exchange, to update or revise any forward-looking statement, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise. More information on the forecasts and estimates is available on request. Past performance is not an indicator of future performance.

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